

# TEN IN JURED IN HOTEL BLAZE

## SPECTACULAR FIRE THREATENS HEART OF BUSY DISTRICT

The injured:  
Blacky Raggio, Sazerac hotel; smoke.  
Herbert Polbrrie, Sazerac hotel; smoke.  
"Prince" Campaisi, Sazerac hotel; smoke.  
Willie Gavin, Sazerac hotel; smoke.  
Pat Murphy, fireman, headquarters; smoke.  
Leonard Wimmer, fireman, 258 Vance; smoke.  
Albert Bonner, insurance patrol; bruised in fall through floor.  
Howard Whidden, fireman, headquarters; smoke.  
S. G. Nichols, fireman, No. 4 company; bruised arm and side.  
Fireman David Plyce, headquarters; smoke.

Ten persons were injured Tuesday when fire, originating in the Yellow Dog luncheon, Madison and Second, swept up to the fourth floor of the Sazerac building and completely gutted the structure, resulting in damage amounting to \$75,000. No one was fatally injured. The loss was fully covered by insurance.

The blaze, in the heart of the business center, for a time threatened the entire block. More than five million dollars' worth of property was in immediate danger. Just across the street is the million-dollar Central Bank building, the two-million-dollar Exchange building and the quarter of a million dollars American Savings Bank and Trust Company building.

Every fire apparatus in the city answered the alarm. Valiant work by the firemen held the blaze to the Sazerac building, though water damage resulted in adjoining stores and business concerns.

Four roomers in the building, which was outfitted as a hotel, were trapped by the flames on the top floor. They were Raggio, Gavin, Campaisi and Polbrrie. The four were saved after firemen reached the top floor and directed them down the steps. Efforts to get a ladder to their window were successful, but Chief O'Neil, of No. 7, had reached the room by that time and hustled the men out.

The blaze first was discovered by a negro cook. It started in the kitchen and it caused the flames to flare up to the top floor. The entire fourth floor was a mass of flames and smoke almost instantly. Thousands gathered as soon as the fire engines began racing to the point. Police lines were quickly stretched out so high up was the fire the throng had every advantage in viewing the firemen at work.

It took two hours for the flames to be subdued. The first alarm went in at 8:45 o'clock. Time and time again firemen were checked by the throng as some special bit of daring was attempted.

G. E. Brown, master mechanic at headquarters, walked along a wet ledge on the Madison street side, broke in a screen and entered a blazing room. A companion fire-fighter was in a room next and came to the window forced by smoke. Brown saw him and saw that the man hesitated in making his way along the coping to safety. The mechanic then walked to this window while the crowd below held its breath. The fireman was pulled to safety.

Overcome by smoke. Wimmer and Murphy early were overcome by smoke and rushed to General hospital in Spencer's ambulance. Every ambulance in town had answered calls. Later Bonner fell through a hole in the floor of Edwards' pool room east south of the Sazerac building. He was taken to patrol station suffering from bruises but not seriously hurt. His fall was about nine feet.

Endeavoring to get in a window on the Second street side of the building St. G. Nichols fell to the sidewalk. He had an injured arm but did not get hurt.

The four men trapped on the top floor were all asleep at the time the blaze broke out. Raggio and Polbrrie were in the front room. Raggio and Gavin were next door and all made their way to the windows, looking down on Second street.

Gasp for Air. Early gatherers saw Raggio punch a window pane out and lay his head on the sill, gasping for air. He later said that he awoke a column of smoke was pouring in his door and that a red sheet of flame was making its way over the transom.

Chief O'Neil said later he had to force one of the men out of the room after three had left. The man wanted to put on his shoes but the chief would not permit him to stop.

Herbert Polbrrie, proprietor of the luncheon, said he tried to send word to the roomers when the fire first broke out, but that it was impossible to awaken them in time to get down stairs before the flames had jumped to the top floor.

Allyn said he anticipated a loss of about \$25,000 to the restaurant and hotel. This was fully covered by insurance. The Sazerac building is owned by the Messick estate. Realty men said the building itself would not prove a great loss. Estimates on value of the property ran around \$150,000.

The fire was the most difficult to fight with the new firemen have encountered and consensus of opinion was that they handled the fight in best style. What detailed deficiency looking was made up by dash and energy that was admirable, spectators said. Cheers frequently broke out at some fire fighter's daring.

Firemen mounted to the roof of the E. A. Gilroy's tailor establishment just east of the Sazerac building and poured streams of water from that point down into the seething mass on the fourth floor of the hotel. Then some of the men crawled

## As Seen By The News Scimitar Camera



As viewed from the roof of Goodwyn Institute.

### Walks 4-Inch Ledge And Becomes Hero Of Hotel Blaze

L. E. Brown is the hero of Tuesday's fire. Alwood Bonner, member of the fire insurance patrol, was saved from certain death in a room of the Sazerac hotel shortly after his department answered the alarm. Brown, master mechanic for Central fire station, carried him across a ledge for 15 feet to the safety of a steel fire escape.

Arrow Shows Ledge on Which Brown Carried Bonner to Safety.

### SAVES PAL



G. E. BROWN.

to the roof where they let themselves down by wall ladders to the fourth floor windows.

Several thousand dollars damage from water and smoke resulted to the tailoring establishment. Officials could not place an exact loss estimate.

Damage also resulted to the Edwards' pool room. This building is owned by the William Wright & Co. R. A. Edwards is proprietor of the pool room. Water damage was the principal loss in the Edwards' place.

The downstairs corner of the Sazerac building is occupied by the Washburn-Lyle drug store. Smoke and water damage added about \$10,000 loss here. Prompt work of the insurance patrol saved much.

One of the roomers on the second floor was awakened and in the excitement rushed downstairs in his B. V. D.'s carrying a bag full of golf clubs. He had time to beat a hasty retreat back to his room and don a few clothes.

Raggio is well known as a prize fight manager. Campaisi is a telephone operator.

Fire Chief Fitzmorris was at loss to explain how the blaze leaped to the top floor of the building after starting in the kitchen. Allyn expressed the opinion that it went up the chimney and broke through a flue on the fourth floor.

Attaches at General hospital said that the four men there would be able to leave probably Tuesday afternoon. Beyond near suffocation from smoke they were not suffering from injuries.

**SPURNED, YOUTH SHOTS GIRL AND THEN SELF**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., Sept. 28.—Because she had spurned his attentions Miss Clara Snodgrass, 18, was shot twice by John Ezell, 19, who then attempted to shoot himself near the heart.

The first bullet struck Miss Snodgrass in the right arm and ranged through upper part of her right lung. The second bullet passed through her body. Her condition is considered serious. Both are in a hospital.

### "PLAY CIGARETS" IGNITE DRESS OF GIRL, BURNS FATAL

Loretta Pearl Hayes, Five Years Old, Dies Tuesday. Was Playing With Brother at Time of Accident.

Loretta Pearl Hayes, 5-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Hayes, 713 Decatur street, died at 8:10 Tuesday morning from burns she received while playing with her brother, Henry, early Monday morning.

"The fire was a bad one to handle and the seat of the fire was extremely hard to get to, but those boys were in it like veterans and have more than justified the fondest hopes of the city commission and we feel sure that the experience will prove of much benefit to the firemen."

Her screams brought her mother and Mrs. H. A. Poppe. They rolled her on the ground but when they had extinguished the blaze only a handful of clothes remained. The child's body was so badly burned that no hope was held for her recovery and the family did not send her to the hospital. She died after much suffering.

Beth Norris & Co. have charge of the funeral arrangements. The father had just left home intending to go to Arkansas but news of his daughter's injuries reached him in time for him to return home and be with her to the end.

**In B. V. D.'s They Quit Building And Walk To Safety**

Herbert Folbrrie and G. Campaisi, roomers at the Yellow Dog, were saved from death or serious injury when Assistant Chief O'Neil pointed them through the smoke of the top-floor rooms to a fire ladder. Both men were asleep when the fire broke out.

"I awoke first," said Campaisi, "and was dazed but in an instant I realized that we would not have long to get out of the building. I saw that Folbrrie, my friend, was still asleep. I awakened him and then a fireman pushed us toward the ladder."

Both men came to the street level in B. V. D.'s, clutching tightly parts of their wardrobe.

**LEADERS CONFER.**

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—Secretaries Baker and Coby conferred here yesterday with George White, chairman of the Democratic national committee. After a consultation of more than an hour, Mr. White announced their discussion concerned campaign matters. Both secretaries are to make speeches advocating the election of Cox and Roosevelt, he said.

### TWO DAYS MORE! "WHY I LOVE AMERICA"

Now is the Time to Get Busy, Schoolboys and Schoolgirls, If You Are Going to Win a Cash Prize in The News Scimitar's Essay Contest On

BY A. MERICAN. You boys and girls who have not yet written your essays in The News Scimitar's "Why I Love America" contest, had better hurry. There remains only two days after Tuesday before the contest closes, and it will be too late for you to win some of the essay money included in the 20 cash prizes offered for the best reasons submitted. The 20 best essays submitted each will win a cash prize. The first prize, given for the very best reasons, is \$15 in cash. The second is \$10, the third and through the 14th to 20th prizes are \$5 in cash each. Then the 20 next best essays each will receive honorable mention. All of these 60 essays will be printed in The News Scimitar, over the writer's name and school.

The contest rules are simple. No essay shall be more than 200 words in length. It shall be written with pen and ink or on typewriter. To compete, one must be a student in a Memphis or Shelby county public school, either high or elementary. The contest closes promptly at midnight, next Thursday night. No essay submitted after that time will be considered. Three members of the city board of education will act as contest judges and will award the prizes.

Address all communications to the "Why I Love America" Editor, The News Scimitar, Memphis.

**NEW YORK HONORS SCHIFF'S MEMORY**

NEW YORK, Sept. 28.—New York paid tribute today to the memory of Jacob H. Schiff, financier and philanthropist, who died here Saturday. Thousands vainly sought permission to the simple funeral service this forenoon at the Temple Emanuel, the congregation of which Mr. Schiff had been a member for half a century.

Instead of strict adherence to the impressive Jewish ritual for the dead, a special order of service was arranged by the officiating clergymen as Mr. Schiff left a written request that no eulogy be delivered.

Many courts throughout the city adjourned for the day. Gov. Alfred E. Smith came here from Albany to attend the services. Men prominent in financial America were among those invited to the synagogue. Flags on some of the great banking houses in the financial district were at half mast.

Down on the East Side, in the district where Mr. Schiff had so often extended his generous philanthropy, business was suspended. Even the peddlers' pushcarts were covered. Thousands of sombre mourning placards appeared over the entrances to tenement houses, and in the windows of shops, settlements, hospitals and orphanages.

Interment will be made in Salem Field, in Brooklyn.

**Fowler Ready To Fight When Man Slurs At Firemen**

Joe Fowler, of the Fowler Electric company, located just a few doors south of the burning building, who made critical remarks concerning the firemen, who at the very moment were risking their lives in an attempt to save the lives of men caught on the upper floors.

### WOMAN KNOCKED DOWN AND BABY HURLED BY AUTO

Brother of Man Injured in Fire Charged With Reckless Driving Following Accident at Fire Scene.

Mrs. Herbert Dover, 728 North Parkway, was the name given by the woman most seriously injured, to hospital attaches. The elderly lady's mother, Mrs. Lulu Tapp, also 728 North Parkway.

Mrs. Dover told attaches that when she saw the machine was going to strike her that she threw the baby. The infant was caught by some man, she said.

Mrs. Dover sustained a broken collarbone. Her mother suffered a broken nose.

Struck before warning could be given by scores of witnesses on the Second street crossing of Madison avenue, while fire engines were still stationed to guard against a fresh outbreak of the Sazerac hotel fire shortly before noon today, two women, one carrying a 10-months-old infant in her arms, were knocked down by an automobile driven by H. F. Folbrrie, a resident of the Sazerac and brother of one of the men injured earlier in the day.

Names of the women could not be secured at the Lucy Brinkley hospital, where they were taken, due to their condition, and at 1 o'clock this afternoon they had not been identified. The hospital reported that both were unhurt.

The woman carrying the child was knocked down, and was unconscious when picked up an instant later, according to witnesses. The woman's companion was dragged for at least 60 feet down Second street, witnesses say. The left fender of the automobile was almost doubled under the wheel from the impact. It is said that the baby was thrown 25 feet. The tiny body struck a fireman standing near the sidewalk, but was unhurt.

Folbrrie is said by several witnesses to have been traveling at a rate of between 25 and 30 miles an hour. The large part of the rear end of the crowd, and several police patrolmen standing on the corners guarding the burned hotel building, did not see the accident, due to the fact that Folbrrie is said to have been speeding. He was placed under arrest immediately, taken to police headquarters and booked on a charge of reckless driving.

The crowd became excited at the accident, and several men uttered low threats against Folbrrie, but he was taken away quickly. Both women appeared to be unconscious.

Folbrrie, according to a statement to The News Scimitar by R. M. Seaton, Madison station, declared that he maintained the same speed as he was driving very rapidly east on Second street, striking the woman.

Others who made statements at eyewitnesses to the accident are J. T. Bradstreet, 143 Colmar street, and C. W. Hudson, 1944 Young avenue. None of the witnesses said the auto was traveling less than 25 miles an hour when it rounded the corner.

In the event the injuries prove serious or fatal, more serious charges will be placed against the driver. The women were taken to Lucy Brinkley hospital by Spencer & Co.

**TWO ASK DIVORCE FROM SAME MAN**

Doris Hammontrout is now defendant in two divorce suits, one filed against him some time ago and ready for trial, and another filed by Mrs. Hammontrout No. 2, which was handed to the clerk of the circuit court for filing Tuesday.

Mrs. Maggie Hammontrout filed suit for divorce against Doris some time ago and this first suit was never answered by defendant. It was called for trial on cross-examination and will be heard soon.

Tuesday Mrs. Mary E. Hammontrout filed suit for divorce from Hammontrout.

### EIGHT WHITE SOX MEN INDICTED IN GAMBLING INQUIRY

Cicotte, Williams, Gandil, Felsch, Risberg, Jackson, Weaver and McMullin Are Named in Alleged Deal.

CHICAGO, Sept. 28.—The Cook county grand jury this afternoon voted true bills against the following baseball players in connection with its investigation of alleged "throwing" of the world series games last year: Eddie Cicotte, Claude Williams, "Chief" Gandil, Happy Felsch, Charles Risberg, Joe Jackson, Fred McMullin and Buck Weaver. All are members of the Chicago Americans.

The players are charged with conspiracy to violate state law.

Cicotte, who, according to a story told in Philadelphia last night by "Bill" Burns, former boxer, was involved in a \$100,000 bet to lose the world's series last year, denied earlier today that he had ever met Maharg.

Cicotte, according to Maharg's story, met Billy Burns, former ball player, and Maharg, in the former's room in a New York hotel and offered to "throw" the series if \$100,000 was paid him by Burns.

"I would not know Maharg if I saw him," Cicotte said today. "I do not recall ever having met him. He might have been introduced to me the same as any other fan, but I do not remember him."

"Bill Burns called at the Ansonia hotel in New York," he did not talk to me alone, but conversed with other members of the team. While I was with him, he was making arrangements for a hunting trip with Bill James. The talk of the world series being fixed is all a joke. I know nothing of it."

Mrs. Henrietta D. Kelley, a widow in whose home several of the White Sox players have roomed at various times and who has been subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury this afternoon, was questioned this morning by Otis P. Lightfoot, assistant state's attorney. Later Assistant State's Attorney Republic, in charge of the investigation, said the case was "important," and Mr. Lightfoot said "if I can gather together the angles on which I am working, I expect to have something which can be prosecuted in Cook county."

Mrs. Kelley herself said she had been asked to tell the state's attorney nothing, as she was not asked about the alleged "fixing" of games.

**BULLETIN.**

**LIVE STOCK BARN INTEREST CROWDS AT FAIRGROUNDS**

The largest crowd of the 1920 season attended the 13th annual Tri-State fair Tuesday. The weather, as it had been during the first three days of the fair, was ideal.

Interest centered about the live stock barns Tuesday morning, where judging was started in the cattle, swine and sheep barns. All of the live stock shows attracted many visitors.

"How to Build a House"—a lecture by Ross Crane, of the Chicago Art institute—attracted hundreds of people to the Woman's building. A demonstration in dress was scheduled for Tuesday afternoon. An exhibition in horse traits are painted also was set for the afternoon hours in the Woman's building.

Concessions now are under full way, and are getting great play from the big crowds.

The amusement features planned for afternoon caused the attendance to climb upward as the noon hour neared. Harness races, auto polo, big-time vaudeville, White's band, the Six Horses, Cliff's band, and "Daredevil" Wright's leap of death all free were the big magnets that led the crowds toward the grand stand before the afternoon show is given.

It would be difficult now to make any official of the Tri-State fair association believe that thirteen is a good number. For this is the thirtieth annual Tri-State fair, and every attendance record of former years has been smashed during the days the fair has been open. The weather for the first three days, no doubt, contributed to this. It seemed made to order.

"Daredevil" Wright made his last appearance at the Tri-State fair for 1920 on Monday, when he changed planes in midair, stood atop a plane while it did a triple loop.

Capt. Thomas L. Thigpen did a double parachute leap from an altitude of 8,000 feet. A heavy wind carried him far to the north of the pad-dock where he hoped to alight.

Arrangements have been completed by the fair management with "Clayey" Burns, manager of the air thrillers, to have a Curtiss plane and experienced pilot remain here during the fair, for the purpose of giving flights to visitors who desire to compete with the swallows, and to plunge through fleecy clouds.

**Gulf Disturbance Is Moving Slowly**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—A statement issued by the weather bureau at 10 a.m. said:

"No radio reports had been received from the gulf this morning, but it was assumed that the center of the disturbance is over the central gulf and moving very slowly."

The pressure distribution, the statement added, is such as to indicate that its future movement will be toward the north or northeast.

### THE WEATHER

Twenty-four hours to noon Sept. 28.			
	Temp.		
Hour	Dry Bulb	Wet Bulb	Hum.
7 a.m. yesterday	75	72	86
7 a.m. today	68	67	90
Noon today	73	70	86
Maximum	84		
Minimum	68		
Sun sets today 5:49 p.m.; rises tomorrow 5:53 a.m. Moon rises 6 p.m. Precipitation .04 inch.			
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Tennessee—Fair.			
Mississippi—Fair.			
Arkansas—Fair, cooler.			
Alabama—Fair.			
Kentucky—Fair.			
Louisiana—Fair.			
Oklahoma—Fair.			
North and South Carolina and Georgia—Fair.			
East and West Texas—Fair.			
Florida—Cloudy.			

Tennessee—Fair.

Mississippi—Fair.

Alabama—Fair, cooler.

Kentucky—Fair.

Louisiana—Fair.

Oklahoma—Fair.

North and South Carolina and Georgia—Fair.

East and West Texas—Fair.

Florida—Cloudy.